

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OIC-04 RSR-01 /124 W
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R 231040Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0372

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 8568

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 28TH UNGA

REF: STATE 162623

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: PRESENTATION OUTLINED REFTEL WAS MADE BY ACTING
POL COUNSELOR TO FONOFF DEP DIR FOR UN AFFAIRS (RACHELE) ON AUG
22. UN DIR ALESSI IS ON VACATION. ALTHOUGH ITALIAN REACTION OVER-
ALL FAVORABLE TO US POSITION ON KOREAN ITEM AT 28TH UNGA, FONOFF
OFFICIAL INDICATED SOME RESERVATIONS AND NEED TO AWAIT BEGINNING
OF DEBATE BEFORE ESTABLISHING FIRM POSITIONS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES.
END SUMMARY.

2. RACHELE RECALLED THAT HERETOFORE GOI HAD GENERALLY SUPPORTED
ROK SIDE IN UN DEBATES. HOWEVER, RECENT SIGNS OF ROK FLESIBILITY
ON SEVERAL MAJOR ISSUES, INDUCED BY DEFEAT OF ROK POLICY IN WHO
ACCORDING RACHELE, HAVE PROMPTED ITALIANS TO ADOPT CAUTIOUS STANCE
WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC ISSUES EXPECTED TO COME UP IN 28TH UNGA.
OVERALL ITALIAN POLICY TOWARD KOREAN QUESTION IS BASED ON A) CON-
TINUING SUPPORT OF SOUTH KOREA; B) AVOIDANCE OF ANY ACTIONS WHICH
WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT DEVELOPING CONTACTS BETWEEN TWO KOREAS AND
C) SUPPORT FOR PRESENT BALANCE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH. STATED AIM
OF GOI POLICY IS TO ENCOURAGE INCIPIENT RAPPROCHMENT.

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3. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, RACHELE SAID THAT DEPENDING ON TACTICAL SITUATION WHICH EMERGES DURING DEBATE INCLUDING FINAL NORTH KOREAN POSITION ON CONCURRENT ADMISSION OF TWO KOREAS TO UN MEMBERSHIP, ITALIANS MAY VERY WELL DECIDE TO SUPPORT USG POSITIONS DOWN THE LINE. HOWEVER, ITALIANS AND OTHERS HAVE SOME DOUBTS ABOUT CONSISTENCY OF NEW ROK POSITION AND CONCERN OVER NORTH KOREAN REACTION THERETO AND CONSEQUENTLY, PREFER TO AWAIT ACTUAL BEGINNING OF DEBATE BEFORE SETTING FIRM POSITION OF THEIR OWN. IN ADDITION, RACHELE ACKNOWLEDGED SOME CONCERN (WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO THIRD WORLD GOVTS) OVER THE LEGALITY OF MAINTAINING UNC INTACT FOLLOWING ADMISSION OF TWO KOREAS TO UN. LATTER ACT, HE SUGGESTED, WOULD SIGNIFY THAT BOTH KOREAS HAVE BEEN LEGITIMIZED IN INTERNATIONAL EYES THEREBY MAKING RETENTION OF UNC IN ONLY ONE OF THE TWO COUNTRIES AN UNSEEMLY ANOMALY AT BEST.

4. IN CONCLUSION, RACHELE SAID THAT, IN ABSTRACT, GOI GENERALLY SUPPORTS US POSITIONS AS WAY TO CONTINUE BACKING FOR ROK WHILE PAVING THE WAY FOR GREATER BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH. IN PARTICULAR, HE SINGLED OUT NEED FOR RETENTION OF UNC IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. HOWEVER, FOR THE REASONS ADVANCED, HE FELT THAT IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO SEE HOW THINGS DEVELOP BEFORE ESTABLISHING FIRM POSITIONS WHICH MIGHT RUN COUNTER TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL CONCERNED. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE UNDERScoreD THE NEED FOR CONSULTATIONS AMONG WESTERN POWERS, IN NATO AND ENLARGED WESTERN GROUP, TO DISCUSS KOREAN ITEM IN ALL ITS RAMIFICATIONS AND TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON SOUNDINGS WITH THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.

5. WE NOTE FROM USUN 2948 THAT WORKING GROUP MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD TO CONSIDER TACTICS AND RESOLUTION LANGUAGE. THIS WOULD SEEM TO OFFER EXCELLENT OCCASION FOR USUN MISSION TO MASSAGE ITALIANS AND TRY TO BRING THEM INTO LINE WITH US POSITIONS. BASED ON RESULTS ACHIEVED IN NEW YORK, WE COULD FOLLOW UP HERE AS NECESSARY. VOLPE

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